

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/767,351

Examiner

Allen H. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI, KOBUN

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/19/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

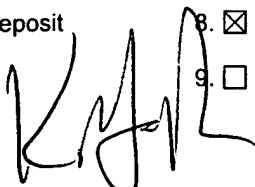
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



KING Y. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-32 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the closest prior art Hayashi et al. (US 5,485,246) fails to show or ~~fairly~~ suggest a supervising system for surprising a plurality of image forming apparatuses, comprising:

wherein said mobile computer includes:

an operation history information inputting device configured to input operation history request information; and

an operation history information informing device configured to inform the operation history request information to the central control apparatus;

wherein said central control apparatus includes:

an operation history information storing device configured to store operation history information related to an operation executed by a service person for each of said plurality of image forming apparatuses, when the operation history

information is received from each of the plurality of image forming apparatuses;

a reading device configured to read prescribed operation history information from said operation history information storing device when a request for the operation history information is received from said mobile computer and

an operation history information transmitting device configured to transmit the operation history request information to said mobile computer.

Regarding claims 2-11, the claims are allowable due to dependence from the respective base claim 1.

Regarding claims 12-22, claims 12-22 are the method claims of device claims 1-11, respectively. Therefore, method claims 12-22 are allowed for the reason given in device claims 1-11.

Regarding claim 23, the closest prior art Hayashi et al. (US 5,485,246) fails to show or fairly suggest a system for supervising a plurality of image forming apparatus connected to a central control apparatus via a network, comprising:

- means for inputting operation history request information of a respective one of the plurality of image forming apparatuses into a mobile computer;
- means for informing the operation history request information to the central control apparatus;

- means for storing in the central control apparatus operation information related to an operation executed by the service person for each of the plurality of image forming apparatuses when the operation information is received by the central control apparatus;

- means for reading, by the central control apparatus, prescribed operation history information from the stored operation information when a request for the operation history information is received from the mobile computer;

means for transmitting the prescribed operation history information to the mobile computer.

Regarding claims 24-32, the claims are allowable due to dependence from the respective base claim 23.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

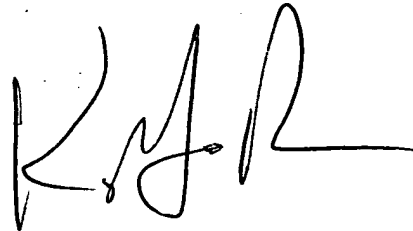
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-270-1229. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on (571)-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AN

01/03/2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Y. Poon', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

KING Y. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER